WHO study on AIDS

2066. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the study of the World Health Organisation, the problem of AIDS is assuming menacing proportions in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps being/proposed to be taken for controlling the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the report "AIDS epidemic update" released jointly by WHO and UNAIDS in December 2003, with the exception of Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand, national HIV prevalence remain comparatively low in most countries of Asia and pacific including India. The abstract information of the report is enclosed as statement (See below).

(c) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, Govt. of India has launched a comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme, currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme under following components:-

* Preventive interventions for high-risk populations through targeted interventions adopting a multi-pronged strategy including peer counseling and behaviour change communication.
* Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counseling and testing services, Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT), Information Education and Communication (IEC) & awareness building among adolescents and sensitization for the AIDS Vaccine Initiative.
* Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections and prevention of occupational exposure.
* Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including workplace interventions and public-private partnerships.

* Building technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through Surveillance, Training, Monitoring and Evaluation,Technical resource groups, operational research and programme management.

AIDS EPIDEMIC UPDATE

December, 2003
UNDER EMBARGO
Until 1400 GMT
25 November, 2003

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The epidemic is spreading into areas and countries where, until recently, there was little or no HIV present—including China, Indonesia and Vietnam (home to over 1.5 billion people)

National adult HIV prevalence is still under 1% in the majority of this region's countries.

Three Asian countries have already had to contend with serious nationwide epidemics: Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand.

Advertisements of sexual stimulants

†2067. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that advertisements, regarding increasing the sexual power are published openly in various magazines and displayed on walls of Delhi and surrounding thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken/proposed to be taken by Government against the advertising companies for violating the laws?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Government are aware that advertisements to increase sexual power are being published in various

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.